

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1B.

REMARKS

Claims 1-48 were pending. Claims 1, 19 and, 25 stand rejected, claims 2-18, 20-23, 26, and 27 stand objected to, and claims 9, 10, 24, and 28-48 are withdrawn from consideration. By virtue of this response, claims 2, 20, and 28-48 have been cancelled, claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 14-16, 18, 19, 21, 22, and 24-28 have been amended, and no claims have been added. Support for the amendments may be found at least by the claims as originally presented and no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-19, and 21-27 are currently under consideration.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-18, 20-23, 26, 27 are indicated on Page 5 of the Office Action to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in the Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1 and 19 are amended to include the features of claims 2 and 20, respectively, and are believed to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112 as described below. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 19, and all claims depending therefrom, are now in condition for immediate allowance. It is further noted that withdrawn claims 9, 10, and 24 should now be allowed as they depend from allowable claims (i.e., claims 1 and 19).

Objection to the Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because the finger of claim 14 must be shown or the feature canceled from the claims. Further, the drawings are also objected to because there is an arrow in FIG. 1B without a reference numeral.

Claim 14 is amended to delete the recitation of “finger”, and now recites “flange”, which is clearly shown as flange 306 in FIGs. 12A and 12B and described in paragraphs [0086]-[0089] of the application as published. Additionally, FIG. 1B has been amended to delete the arrow shown therein without a reference numeral.

Claim Objections under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1-8, 11-23, and 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicants have amended claims 1, 2 (as included in claim 1), and 18 as suggested by the Examiner for clarity. Further, claims 1, 3, 4, and 7 have been amended to provide sufficient antecedent basis for the terms listed in the Office Action under this heading. Finally, claim 7 has been amended for clarity to recite how the receiver projections and guide slots are related to those recited in claim 1. It is believed that all rejections under this heading have been addressed and overcome, and therefore it is requested that the rejection is withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Claim Objections under 35 U.S.C. §102/103

Claims 1 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ohyama (U.S. Patent No. 4,799,117). Further, claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ohyama, or in alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Ohyama.

Claims 1 and 19 are amended to include the features of claims 2 and 20, respectively, which are indicated in the Office Action to include allowable features. Accordingly, Applicants request the rejection be withdrawn and claims 1 and 19, and all claims depending therefrom, allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 249212021000. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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